(b) and (c) A representation has been received from major sports channels regarding the proposal for the mandatory sharing with Prasar Bharati of telecast rights of events of national importance.

(d) No, Sir. The channels are allowed to uplink through teleports in the C-band at present.

Channel for science and technology

1508. SHRI N.R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a separate channel exclusively for science and technology using satellites launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the aim and area likely to be covered by the said channel?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Department of Science and Technology has informed that there is no such proposal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise. However, programme on Science and Technology are given special importance in all channels.

Crime Reports on TV channels

1509. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the regular 'Crime Reports' on major TV channels sensationalising crimes;

(b) if so, whether any analysis has been made by the concerned agencies about the impact of such serials on the society; and

(c) the steps taken to regulate the contents of TV 'Crime Reports'?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) to (c) No analysis has been made by the Government about the impact on society of 'Crime Reports' telecast by several major TV channels. However, all programmes and advertisements

of all TV channels transmitted/retransmitted through the cable network are required to strictly adhere to the Programme Code and Advertising Code prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. Any violation of these Codes attracts action against them under the Cable Act. The Government has set up an Inter-Ministerial Committee to look into the violations of the Programme Code and Advertising Code. This Committee, on receipt of complaints or *suo-moto* takes action against the TV channels which are violating the said Codes.

Advertisements by DAVP

1510. SHRI T. T. V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the advertisements released by DAVP, agency-wise during the last three years, showing amount in each case;

(b) the criteria for releasing advertisements to media; and

(c) by when these guidelines were last modified?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) The Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) is the nodal agency of the Government of India for advertising by various Ministries/Departments of Government of India including Public Sector Undertakings and autonomous bodies. DAVP releases advertisements directly to the newspapers/journals empanelled with it and not through any other agency.

(b) DAVP releases advertisements to the empanelled newspapers/ journals in accordance with the advertising policy of the Government of India and guidelines for empanelment of newspapers with DAVP, keeping in veiw the contents, publicity requirements, target audience and budget provisions, etc.

(c) The guidelines were modified in 2002 and came into force with effect from 1st May, 2002.